



*Honor – Empower - Restart*

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## **WTLC Mardi Gras in July To Benefit Survivors of Domestic Violence**

**April 4, 2014** – On Saturday, July 12, The Women’s Transitional Living Center (WTLC) will bring the sights, sounds and tastes of Mardi Gras to the Fullerton Museum Plaza.

“I would like to thank our sponsors and volunteers who will make Mardi Gras in July, our major annual fundraiser, one to remember,” said Gigi Tsontos, WTLC executive director. “The specter of domestic violence and exploitation is alarming and needs to be stopped in its tracks,” she said. “The work of WTLC to end the cycle of violence and exploitation through education and rehabilitation can not be accomplished without the wonderful community support we welcome every year.”

Mardi Gras in July’s 2014 sponsors include: Chevron, Judy Ware of Ware Disposal, Richard D. Jones of Jones & Mayer, the Brea branch of Pacific Western Bank and Meathead Movers.

Once again, Mardi Gras in July will feature Creole and Cajun music and dance lessons from Bonne Musique Zydeco, the talented street performers of the Circus and Kinetics Arts Club of Fullerton High School, a fortune teller and a henna tattoo artist.

The fun on “Jackson Square” also includes a photo booth, pie eating contest, an authentic King Cake direct from New Orleans and the crowning of the Mardi Gras King and Queen. New this year, artists from Spiked Paint will supply all the material to help revelers decorate their own Mardi Gras masks.

Of course, the “official drink” of Bourbon Street – Hurricanes – will be available for sale, along with tastes of New Orleans courtesy of many local eateries, free with admission.

Zoot Velasco, executive director of the Muckenthaler Cultural Center and WTLC board member, will preside over the fun as Master of Ceremonies. Fullerton’s favorite storyteller and performer will also take up the gavel for the live auction where exotic getaways and a large screen television will be auctioned to the highest bidders. An array of silent auction items will also be displayed adding to the evening’s excitement. All proceeds from sales on Jackson Square will benefit WTLC.

Mardi Gras in July will be held from 6 to 10 p.m. at the Fullerton Museum Plaza. Tickets are \$30 per person and can be purchased at [www.mardigrasinjuly.com](http://www.mardigrasinjuly.com), or at the door.

WTLC is a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping individuals and families escape the depths of domestic violence and exploitation. WTLC provides the tools and resources to build self-esteem and empower people for independent living. For more information check out the website at [www.wtlc.org](http://www.wtlc.org)

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